

Comments Relative to FCC NOI 03-104 (BPL)

The FCC has licensed me since 1955 and I currently hold an FCC Amateur Extra Class license. I am filing these comments with you as both a concerned citizen and an amateur radio operator.

Until at which time sufficient and thorough testing has been performed regarding interference to users of the affected spectrum that might be caused by BPL service, I encourage you, the Federal Communications Commission, to delay any decisions on the use of BPL technology. It is my hope that you will very carefully consider the interference potential of the proposed BPL service. This interference threat is not restricted to the amateur service, but would also involve public safety organizations, broadcasters, aircraft communications, maritime communications, military communications and Government services as well.

As I am sure you are well aware, European tests already conducted have demonstrated that significant potential exists for spectrum interference caused by the use of BPL. From all reports that I have read thus far, much testing remains to be performed before any kind of decisions can be or should be made regarding BPL technology. It is my hope that you will not permit any use of BPL until at which time both commercial and Government organizations have performed exhaustive testing in the use of BPL.

I feel compelled to ask; why are you even considering the possible use of BPL? You have already set aside the 3.65 to 3.70 GHz band for use by Internet service providers and from all indications; they are not utilizing that portion of the spectrum to its fullest potential. Until at which time they fully utilize that portion of the spectrum, I find no justification to offer them additional frequencies. In addition, the major Internet service providers are continually reducing their service charges for dial-up, DSL and cable modem service, which further makes me question the need for and/or justification in the consideration of BPL service.

I request that you give the BPL issue the most careful and thorough consideration possible before making your final decisions.

Kindest regards,

Rod F. Hotz
1122 Enclave Square East
Houston, TX 77077-7616
Amateur Extra Class Licensee K5BGB